

Washington, DC (September 11, 2011) – Rep. Gus Bilirakis (FL-09), Chairman of the House Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications, issued the following statement on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks:

"While we choose to honor the sacrifices and tragedy of September 11th with solemnity today, we also celebrate who we are as a Nation. We celebrate our republic. We celebrate liberty. America was targeted because we are the embodiment of freedom and opportunity in the world. And no one will keep us from continuing to live that way.

"As evidenced by the credible but unconfirmed threat on this 9/11 anniversary, we must remain vigilant and aware of those who pose a threat against the United States. There is still more that can be done.

"We are reminded from the aftermath of September 11th that America is a nation of resilient, compassionate and determined people. The terrorists who struck our country failed to scare us from our way of life. They failed to deter us from being Americans and enjoying the freedoms we cherish. To the first responders, soldiers, firefighters and policemen who served on that day and to those who continue to do so valiantly, we salute you. Your sacrifices will not be in vain."